THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) According to the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, which is the nodal ministry for the subject, as the income criteria to exclude creamy layer from Other Backward Classes (OBC) was to be revised after expiry of three years from the last revision, the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC) was requested (on 27.12.2007) to review the existing ceiling of income/wealth to determine the Creamy Layer amongst the OBCs. The NCBC gave its recommendations after considering various relevant factors such as the socio-economic development of the Other Backward Classes appearing in various surveys and reports published by the Government of India, the increasing trend in the GDP, net per capita income, all round economic growth, acceleration in inflation in primary commodities, continued high escalation in price of the commodities in fuel group, steady increase in the costs for medical, transport and education, and also taking note of the recommendation of Sixth Central Pay Commission recommending the existing rates of most of the allowances to be doubled. On the basis of the recommendation of the NCBC, the income limit for determining the Creamy Layer among the backward classes has been revised by the Government from Rs. 2.5 lakhs to Rs.4.5 lakhs. Ministry of Human Resource Development has accordingly conveyed the revised income criteria to Central Educational Institutions and statutory bodies coming under its purview for the purposes of implementing the Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admission) Act, 2006.

Branch of Kendriya Hindi Sansthan in Kolkata

196. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any proposal from the Kendriya Hindi Sansthan to open its branch institute in Kolkata; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The proposal of Kendriya Hindi Sansthan (KHS) to open a branch in Kolkata was considered by the Government and KHS was advised to re-examine the proposal keeping in view the fact that the Kendriya Hindi Sansthan already has centres at Bhubaneshwar, Guwahati, Shillong and Dimapur in the Eastern/Northeastern parts of the country.

Kendriya Hindi Sansthan has got the proposal examined by a Sub-Committee KHS has to send the recommendations of the Sub-Committee after obtaining the approval of Shashi Parishad. Further action can be taken by Government on its receipt.

Wasted foodgrains meant for Primary Schools in Delhi

197. SHRI N.K. SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of NCT of Delhi has informed the Central Government that of the 11080 tonnes of grains lifted by it from the godowns of Food Corporation of India in 2007-2008, 3878 tonnes—a staggering 35 per cent, went waste;

(b) whether as a result of the wastage, about one lakh primary school children were served just 65 grams of cooked food for every 100 grams of food grains lifted; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Compulsory donation to schools

198. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that compulsory donations by the wards to schools have become a source of unaccounted money, which is called black-money;

(b) how Government permits such unethical practices in schools; and

(c) whether Government is considering to constitute a Committee to find out the volume of such black money generated in school and the way out from the vicious circle of private school managements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) Education being a concurrent subject, most schools come under the purview of State Governments. In so far as schools affiliated with CBSE are concerned, sporadic complaints are received by CBSE against its affiliated schools in respect of charging of donations from parents of students at the time of admission. CBSE takes actions after conducting enquiry on the complaints received. The Affiliation bye Laws of Central Board of Secondary Education, *inter-alia*, provides that "Fee charges should be commensurate with the facilities provided by the institution. Fee should normally be charged under the heads prescribed by the Department of Education of the State/UT for schools of different categories. No capitation fee or voluntary donations for gaining admission in the school or for any other purpose should be charged/collected in the name of the school".

For other schools, it is for the respective State Governments and Examination Boards to take necessary action. Whenever information is received by the Income Tax Department regarding generation of unaccounted money by schools, necessary action is taken by that Department under the Income Tax Act.

(c) There is no such proposal at present.